



23 September 2010  
Kabul, Afghanistan

## Japanese Government Contributes \$50 Millions to the Afghanistan Peace & Reintegration Programme

The Afghanistan Finance Minister, Mr. Omar Zakhilwal, Ambassador of Japan to Afghanistan, Mr. Shigeyuki Hiroki, and UNDP's Resident Representative, Mr. Robert Watkins, gathered today for the signing ceremony of Japan's \$50 million contribution to the Afghanistan Peace and Reintegration Programme (APRP), which is led by the Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

"This significant contribution of the Japanese Government represents the international community's continued commitment to help the Afghan people heal its wounds after decades of conflict. Through the Afghanistan Peace & Reintegration Programme (APRP), the Japanese Government and the UNDP will support the Government of Afghanistan's efforts to restore peace and unity throughout the country," said Afghanistan Finance Minister Omar Zakhilwal. In his speech, Ambassador Hiroki of Japan reaffirmed Japan's commitment to support the efforts of the Afghan Government to bring about the peace and promote reintegration and sustainable development in the country.



Left to right: Ambassador Hiroki, Minister Zakhilwal, Director Stanikzai and UNDP Resident Representative, Robert Watkins are signing the APRP agreement.

The Japanese Government's financial assistance to the APRP is the first donor contribution to the UNDP Window of the APRP Trust Fund. UNDP Afghanistan will be providing various operational support in close cooperation with the Government of Afghanistan and channeling the financial resources to existing national programmes led by different Ministries.

The Afghan Government presented a summary APRP outline at the London Conference on 28 January, and as it was decided in the Kabul Conference on 20 July 2010, the Afghan Government will lead the APRP and take primary responsibility of the P&R Trust Fund.

The APRP seeks to bring all those armed oppositions to renounce violence peacefully and back into Afghan society by reaching out to disenfranchised communities, individuals, groups and leaders and

mobilizing communities to provide stability, security and legitimate livelihoods for ex-combatants and their communities. Reintegration is also part of the broader peace-building campaign and this includes efforts to support expanded political, social, and economic opportunities in Afghan communities nationwide.

For more information please contact:

Mr. Aziz Shams  
Ministry of Finance Spokesperson  
Mobile: 0799326383/ 0794934622  
Email: [mof.media@gmail.com](mailto:mof.media@gmail.com)